



Khadija,

Your email enquiry to Mr Ivan Pillay refers. Herewith please find the SARS response—

In South Africa the Civil Aviation Authority is responsible for registering aircraft and monitoring flights into and from this country

All international airports, in terms of South African law, are declared national key points and are physically secured by the Airports Company South Africa (ACSA), with or without additional private security contractors, and the South African Police Service (SAPS)

Your questions regarding airport security and the registration and monitoring of flights, may be best answered by one or some of these institutions

Generally, the legitimate trade in diamonds must be viewed in 2 categories; namely; trade in rough and unpolished diamonds; and trade in cut diamonds

Trade across borders for cut diamonds operates the same as any other commodity and as such normal treatment or clearance processes will apply. However, with regards to unpolished, rough or uncut diamonds, additional control measures apply. These include the production of a Kimberly Certificate which is issued by the South African Diamond and Precious Metal Regulator. The purpose of the Kimberley Process is to curtail the trade in what is considered “conflict” diamonds

In terms of the Diamonds Act No. 56 of 1986, Regulations 6A and 6B, no unpolished diamond may be registered for export or

imported, unless the diamond is accompanied by a Kimberley Process Certificate. The certificate validates that the diamond is not a “conflict” diamond and legitimises the trade therein. The certificate must always accompany the physical shipment. The South African Diamond and Precious Metals Regulator (SADPMR) is tasked with issuing the certificates on export and verifying them on import. Therefore all import consignments of unpolished diamonds must be inspected by the SADPMR after release by Customs; and all export consignments must first be registered with SADPMR before clearance with Customs. In addition, only a few vetted companies are allowed to transport diamonds to and from the airport to the SADPMR and strict security measures for their storage are followed. These vetted companies also take on the responsibility for the processing of all the necessary documents for the clearance of the goods. The above only deals with the treatment of legitimate trade in diamonds. The part that deals with the illegal trade in diamonds, falls under the purview and competence of the SAPS. Should such an incidence be uncovered during the normal course of the Customs business, the diamonds will be detained and the case handed over to the SAPS. If there is any other information you require or further detail you may, please feel free to report it to SARS as a suspicious activity.

ENDS.